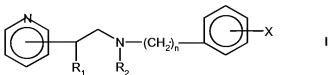


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A compound of formula I



wherein

n is an integer from 2 to 4

R₁ is a ~~hydrogen atom~~, hydroxyl group or lower C₁₋₆alkoxy group

R₂ is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched lower C₁₋₆alkyl group

X is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxyl group, trifluoromethyl group, 3,4-di-Cl, 2,4-di-Cl or lower C₁₋₆ alkoxy group

or an enantiomer, diastereoisomer or racemate thereof, or a physiologically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented). The compounds according to claim 1 in which n is an integer 2, R₁ is a hydroxyl group, R₂ a methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl or isobutyl group and X is a hydrogen atom, 3,4-di-Cl, or 2,4-di-Cl.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 in which R₁ is a hydroxyl group in the RS configuration.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl)-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-phenylethyl)-N-propylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(3-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl)-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented). The compound according to claim 1 which is 1-(4-pyridyl)-2-(N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)ethyl)-N-methylamino)ethanol and a dihydrobromide salt thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented). The compounds of formula I according to claim 1 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof as the ligands of sigma receptors for inhibiting cholesterol biosynthesis in the treatment of hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipemia in humans.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented). The compositions comprising the compound of formula I according to claim 1 and the physiologically acceptable acid addition salts thereof.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented). The process for preparation of the compound of formula I according to claim 1 which process comprises

- a) alkylating secondary amines of formula VI



wherein

R_2 is as defined above in formula I and Z is a group



in which X is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



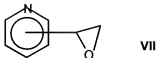
to form the compound of formula I, or

- b) alkylating primary amines of formula VIII

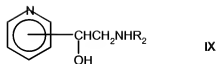


wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,

with pyridyloxirane of formula VII



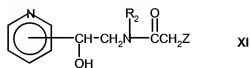
to intermediate compounds of formula IX



wherein R_2 is as defined above in formula I,
 and condensing with the derivatives of phenylacetic acid of formula X



wherein Z is as defined above,
 to an intermediate compounds of formula XI



and reducing the compound of formula XI to the compound of formula I and optionally
 converting the compound of formula I into a salt.